UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/609,714	06/30/2000	Stefan Hack	7781.0013-0	2503

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EXAMINER
HECK, MICHAEL C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3623	

DATE MAILED: 04/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _15 January 2004_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-57_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-57_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This Final Office Action is responsive to applicant's amendment filed 15 January 2004.

Applicant's amendment of 15 January 2004 amended claims 1, 6, 21-26, 40, and 55-57.

Currently, claims 1-57 are pending.

Response to Amendment

2.   The 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph rejection in the first Office Action for claims 24-25 are

withdrawn in response to the applicant's amendment to the claims.

3.   The 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection in the first Office Action for claims 1-23 and 26-57 are

withdrawn in response to the applicant's amendment to the claims.

4.   The 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection in the first Office Action for claims 1-5 and 24-25 are

withdrawn in response to the applicant's amendment to the claims.

Response to Arguments

5.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-57 have been considered but are moot in

view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Of note, the applicant amended dependent claims 1, 6,

21, 24, 26, 40, and 55. The new 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection is indicated below.

Applicant disagreed with the 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection for claims reciting only an abstract

idea not within the technological arts since there is not legal precedent for such a position. The

phrase "technological arts" is synonymous with the phrase "useful arts" as it appears in Article I,

Section 8 of the Constitution. *In re Waldbaum, 173 USPQ 430 (CCPA 1972).* For a claim to be

statutory, it must be in the technological arts. *In re Musgrave, 167 USPQ 280 (CCPA 1970) and*

In re Johnston, 183 USPQ 172 (CCPA 1974). The technological arts inquiry must focus on whether the claimed subject matter is statutory. *In re Toma, 197 USPQ 852 (CCPA 1978).* The invention in the body of the claim must recite technology. If the invention in the body of the claim is not tied to technological art, environment, or a machine, the claim is not statutory. *Ex parte Bowman, 61 USPQ2d 1665, 1671 (BD. Pat. App. & Inter. 2001)(unpublished). Also note MPEP 2106 IV B.2(b).* Specifically, MPEP 2106 IV B.2(b)ii states a process that merely manipulates an abstract idea or performs a purely mathematical algorithm is non-statutory despite the fact that it might inherently have some usefulness. In Bowman, the Board affirmed the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Board held that the disclosed and claimed invention is directed merely to a human making mental computations and manually plotting results on a paper chart, and thus is nothing more that an abstract idea that is not tied to any technological art and is not a useful art as contemplated by the Constitution. In summary, the abstract idea does not become a technological art merely by the recitation in the claim of "transforming physical media into a chart" and "physically plotting a point on said chart". Even though Bowman is not precedence, Bowman is being cited for its analysis of whether the claim is in the technological arts. As to technological arts recited in the preamble, mere recitation in the preamble (i.e., intended or field of use) or mere implications of employing a machine or article of manufacture to perform some or all of the recited steps does not confer statutory subject matter to an otherwise abstract idea unless there is positive recitation in the claim as a whole to breathe life and meaning into the preamble. Therefore, the preamble is taken to merely recite a field of use.

Applicant argued that the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection did not constitute a *prima facie*
rejection. Applicant also argued that the examiner's position that the actual shape and alignment
of the picture or graph features are not functional and therefore are not given any patentable
weight is a misapplication of the relevant law. The applicant asserts the interlocked polygons
illustrate interactions between the participants and define the participants for the interactions and
these functions are determined by a data processor and worthy of patentable weight. As
indicated by the examiner in the office action, the claims only describe a picture or graph with
drill-down features for more detailed information. A polygon by definition is any plane shape
with straight sides, such as a triangle, square, pentagon, hexagon, etc. A polygon, whatever
shape it is, does not determine what the interactions are. In fact, as written, the interactions
would not change if circles were used. Therefore, the shape is considered non-functional
descriptive material.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all
obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

7.   **Claims 1-57** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flores et al.
(U.S. Patent 5,630,069) in view of Business Editors (Business Editors, DeskTalk Announces
Next Generation TREND ReportPacks Automating Web-Based Performance Reporting,
Business Wire 5 May 1998, p. 1 [PROQUEST]). The examiner interprets the claims to describe

a picture or graph with drill-down features for more detailed information. Flores et al. teach a

method and apparatus for creating workflow maps of business processes. Flores et al. does not

expressly teach the specific data recited in claims 1, 6, 8, 21, 26, 28, 40, 42, and 55 as to the

polygon shape of the graph features; however, these differences are only found in the non-

functional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the steps recited nor do they

alter the recited structural elements. The recited method steps would be performed the same

regardless of the specific data. Further, the structural elements remain the same regardless of the

specific data. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the

prior art in terms of patentability, *see In re Gulack, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404*

(Fed. Cir. 1983); In re Lowry, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994); MPEP § 2106.

Flores et al. disclose a value chain optimization system and method comprising:

- [**Claim 1**] providing on a display device coupled to a data processing system a business view depicting a plurality of interlocked polygons illustrating interactions between the participants, the polygons being positioned relative to each other to define the participants for the interactions (col. 1, line 64 to col. 2, line 30, col. 4, lines 22-52, col. 5, lines 55-62, and col. 7, lines 10-30, Flores et al. teach the workflow server is the heart of the workflow system. Business process maps display the relevant information about each workflow-the customer, the performer, the conditions of satisfaction and the cycle time. A business process map is a graphical representation of a business process, which shows its workflows and their relationships. Workflow maps highlight the role of process participants, which workflows are primary and which workflows are secondary to the business process; what work is performed in serial; what work is performed in parallel. A graphical user interface in a computer system is utilized. Typically, a workflow map, as it appears on a monitor in a size suitable for comfortable viewing, is larger than the screen. For this reason, horizontal and vertical scroll bars allow the user to scroll through the entire map.); and

- [**Claim 6**] rendering, using a data processing system, a first graphical depiction of a sequence of interactions between different ones of the participants, the depiction including polygons being juxtaposed to indicate the sequence and participants of each of the interactions (col. 1, line 64 to col. 2, line 30, col. 4, lines 22-52, col. 5, lines 55-62, and col. 7, lines 10-30, Flores et al. teach the workflow server is the heart of the

workflow system. Business process maps display the relevant information about each workflow-the customer, the performer, the conditions of satisfaction and the cycle time. A business process map is a graphical representation of a business process, which shows its workflows and their relationships. Workflow maps highlight the role of process participants, which workflows are primary and which workflows are secondary to the business process; what work is performed in serial; what work is performed in parallel. A graphical user interface in a computer system is utilized. Typically, a workflow map, as it appears on a monitor in a size suitable for comfortable viewing, is larger than the screen. For this reason, horizontal and vertical scroll bars allow the user to scroll through the entire map.).

As to claim 1, Flores et al. fail to teach deriving an interaction view from the business view using said data processing system; the interaction view depicting additional information between the participants; and as to claim 6, Flores et al. fail to teach rendering, using the data processing system, a second graphical depiction, derived from the first graphical depiction, of an information flow. Business Editors teach web-based performance reports complete with multiple charts and graphs, hot links from summary information to drill-down details, and information pop-ups describing the report and its usage (Para 1). ReportPacks automatically group coherent sets of information into reports directed to particular audiences or tasks (Para 3). Network managers can use the new automated, Web-based ReportPacks as templates from which they can customize the graphs and data, update polling policies, fine tune threshold definitions, hot-link in additional charts, and use TRENDweb's presentation-style drawing package to add descriptive text and company-specific graphics (Para 11). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to include drill-down capability with the teachings of Flores et al. since the teaching of Business Editors teach that it is old and well known in the presentation art to group information into reports directed to a particular audience or task (Para 3). Business reports and graphs convey information needed at all levels of the organization. Being able to display the same information in the various formats requested by the

using community can be cumbersome and time consuming. Having the ability to display

information where users can elect to drill-down to information that is needed allows users to get

their desired information and saves time for the users since the information is collected and

prepared once.

- [Claim 2] providing, in the business view, an indication of the benefits from the interactions (Business Editors: Para 6, Business Editors teach forecasts reports indicating devices where near-term corrections can prevent service degradation. The examiner interprets the forecast reports to be an indication of benefits.).

- [Claim 3] providing a component view depicting an implementation of the business and interaction view in a physical system (Business Editors: Para 3 and 10, Business Editors teach DeskTalk's TREND 3.5 provides network managers with comprehensive web-based management reports. Service Level Management report provides an instant view of latency and availability across the enterprise by element. The examiner interprets the Service Level Management report to describe a physical system.).

- [Claim 4] providing a component view includes depicting the availability of IT components in the physical system (Business Editors: Para 3, 7, and 10, Business Editors teach DeskTalk's TREND 3.5 provides network managers with comprehensive web-based management reports. Service Level Management report provides an instant view of latency and availability across the enterprise by element. Capacity Planning reports details most over-utilized and most under-utilized elements indicating opportunities for load balancing to improve service levels without additional investment. The examiner interprets the capacity planning report to identify availability of IT components.).

- [Claim 5] providing a component view includes depicting the activities of software components (Business Editors: Para 1, Business Editors teach TREND helps the network manager analyze trends in the network. The examiner interprets that software is an integral part of the network.)

- [Claim 7] rendering a third graphical depiction depicting an implementation of the first and second graphical depiction in a physical system (Business Editors: Para 1, 3, and 10, Business Editors teach enterprise management reporting software that delivers web-based performance reports with charts and graphs with links from summary information to drill-down details. DeskTalk's TREND 3.5 provides network managers with comprehensive web-based management reports. Service Level Management report provides an instant view of latency and availability across

the enterprise by element. The examiner interprets the Service Level Management report to describe a physical system.).

- [Claim 8] rendering the first graphical depiction includes, representing a plurality of interactions depicted as interlocking polygons (Flores et al. col. 6, lines 21-24, col. 8, lines 56-67, Flores et al. teach links are represented graphically as lines with arrowheads that connect two workflows. Conditional links are indicated with a diamond icon. The diamond shape is a polygon. Links define dependency between two workflows and the mechanism by which dependencies between workflows is established.).

- [Claim 9] rendering the first graphical depiction includes, vertically aligning representations of interactions involving one of the participants (Flores et al.: col. 7, lines 19-22, Flores et al. teach a workflow map, as it appears on a monitor in a size suitable for comfortable viewing, is larger than the screen. For this reason, horizontal and vertical scroll bars also the user to scroll through the entire map. Business Editors: Para 1, Business Editors teach enterprise management reporting software that delivers web-based performance reports with charts and graphs with links from summary information to drill-down details.).

- [Claim 10] rendering the graphical depictions include, vertically aligning representations of the business benefits, wherein the business benefits correspond to at least one participant (Flores et al.: col. 7, lines 19-22, Flores et al. teach a workflow map, as it appears on a monitor in a size suitable for comfortable viewing, is larger than the screen. For this reason, horizontal and vertical scroll bars also the user to scroll through the entire map. Business Editors: Para 1 and 6, Business Editors teach enterprise management reporting software that delivers web-based performance reports with charts and graphs with links from summary information to drill-down details. Forecasts reports indicate devices where near-term corrections can prevent service degradation. The examiner interprets the forecast reports to be an indication of benefits.).

- [Claim 11] rendering the graphical depictions includes, vertically aligning representations of quantifiable business benefits, wherein the quantifiable business benefits provide a basis for ROI calculations (Flores et al.: col. 7, lines 19-22, Flores et al. teach a workflow map, as it appears on a monitor in a size suitable for comfortable viewing, is larger than the screen. For this reason, horizontal and vertical scroll bars allow the user to scroll through the entire map. Business Editors: Para 1 and 7, Business Editors teach enterprise management reporting software that delivers web-based performance reports with charts and graphs with links from summary information to drill-down details. Capacity Planning reports details most over-utilized and most under-utilized elements indicating opportunities for load balancing to improve service levels without additional investment.)

- **[Claim 12]** producing a link from the first graphical depiction to the second graphical depiction (Business Editors: Para 1, 3, and 10, Business Editors teach enterprise management reporting software that delivers web-based performance reports with charts and graphs with links from summary information to drill-down details.).

- **[Claim 13]** rendering the second graphical depiction includes providing additional information regarding interdependency of the participants (Business Editors: Para 1, Business Editors teach enterprise management reporting software that delivers web-based performance reports with charts and graphs with links from summary information to drill-down details).

- **[Claim 14]** rendering the second graphical depiction includes depicting a sequence of activities (Flores et al.: col. 2, lines 9-31, Flores et a. teach workflow maps that highlight what work is performed in serial and what work is performed in parallel).

- **[Claim 15]** rendering the second graphical depiction includes depicting information sharing between participants (Flores et al.: col. 5, lines 55-62, and col. 6, lines 62-64, Flores et a. teach a business process is a network of workflows linked together that represent the recurrent process by which an organization performs and completes work, delivers products and services and satisfies customers. Specifically, a workflow is a structured set of acts between customers and performers organized to satisfy the customer's conditions of satisfaction.)

- **[Claim 16]** rendering the second graphical depiction includes depicting roles in the collaboration (Business Editors: Para 1, 3, and 10, Business Editors teach enterprise management reporting software that delivers web-based performance reports with charts and graphs with links from summary information to drill-down details. Flores et al.: Col. 2, lines 9-30, Flores et al. teaches workflow maps highlights the roles of process participants.)

- **[Claim 17]** rendering the second graphical depiction includes depicting features in the collaboration (Business Editors: Para 1, 3, and 10, Business Editors teach enterprise management reporting software that delivers web-based performance reports with charts and graphs with links from summary information to drill-down details. Flores et al. Col. 2, lines 9-30, Flores et al. teaches workflow maps highlights the features of business processes.)

- **[Claim 18]** rendering the third graphical depiction includes depicting a system topology used by a participant (Business Editors: Para 3, and 10, Business Editors teach DeskTalk's TREND 3.5 provides network managers with comprehensive web-based management reports. Service Level Management report provides an instant view of latency and availability across the enterprise by element.)

- [**Claim 19**] rendering the third graphical depiction includes depicting distributed and centralized systems (Business Editors: Para 3, and 10, Business Editors teach DeskTalk's TREND 3.5 provides network managers with comprehensive web-based management reports. Service Level Management report provides an instant view of latency and availability across the enterprise by element.)

- [**Claim 20**] the third graphical depiction is derived from the second graphical depiction and contains additional information regarding the collaboration between participants (Business Editors: Para 1, 3, and 10, Business Editors teach enterprise management reporting software that delivers web-based performance reports with charts and graphs with links from summary information to drill-down details. DeskTalk's TREND 3.5 provides network managers with comprehensive web-based management reports. Service Level Management report provides an instant view of latency and availability across the enterprise by element.).

- [**Claim 21**] displaying a first view, using a data processing system, the view including a plurality of interlocking polygons depicting activities of participants in transactions, wherein the polygons corresponding to each participant are vertically aligned and business benefits of the collaborative business scenario are shown in a vertical arrangement (Flores et al.: col. 4, lines 22-52, col. 6, lines 21-24, col. 7, lines 19-22, and col. 8, lines 56-67, and Figure 5, Flores et al. teach the workflow server is the heart of the workflow system. Links are represented graphically as lines with arrowheads that connect two workflows. Conditional links are indicated with a diamond icon. The diamond shape is a polygon. Links define dependency between two workflows and the mechanism by which dependencies between workflows is established. As depicted in figure 5, conditional link 1 relates to workflows (3) in a vertical alignment. A workflow map, as it appears on a monitor in a size suitable for comfortable viewing, is larger than the screen. For this reason, horizontal and vertical scroll bars allow the user to scroll through the entire map. Business Editors: Para 3, Business editors teach ReportPacks automatically group coherent sets of information into reports directed to particular audiences or tasks.).

- [**Claim 22**] displaying a second view including participants of the collaborative business scenario (Flores et al. col. 1 lines 19-25 and line 64 through to col. 2, line 8, Flores et al. teach business process maps that display the relationships among workflows, and displays the relevant information about each workflow. Workflows are business processes or a sequence of transactions. Every workflow has a customer, a performer, and conditions of satisfaction.);

- activities of the participants illustrated as interlocking polygons (Flores et al. col. 6, lines 21-24, col. 7, lines 19-22, and col. 8, lines 56-67, and Figure 5, Flores et al. teach business process maps that display the relationships among workflows, and displays the relevant information about each workflow. Workflows are business processes or a sequence of transactions. Links are represented graphically as lines

- with arrowheads that connect two workflows. Conditional links are indicated with a diamond icon. The diamond shape is a polygon. Links define dependency between two workflows and the mechanism by which dependencies between workflows is established.);

- information flow between the participants illustrated as lines linking the interlocking polygons (Flores et al. col. 6, lines 21-24, col. 7, lines 19-22, and col. 8, lines 56-67, and Figure 5, Flores et al. teach business process maps that display the relationships among workflows, and displays the relevant information about each workflow. Workflows are business processes or a sequence of transactions. Links are represented graphically as lines with arrowheads that connect two workflows. Links define dependency between two workflows and the mechanism by which dependencies between workflows is established.); and

- connectors illustrating a direction of document exchange. (Flores et al. col. 1 lines 19-25 and line 64 through to col. 2, line 8, col. 6, lines 21-24, col. 7, lines 19-22, and col. 8, lines 56-67, and Figure 5, Flores et al. teaches business process maps that display the relationships among workflows, and displays the relevant information about each workflow. Workflows are business processes or a sequence of transactions. Links are represented graphically as lines with arrowheads that connect two workflows. Links define dependency between two workflows and the mechanism by which dependencies between workflows is established.);

- **[Claim 23]** a system topology at a business site of one of the participants (Business Editors: Para 3, and 10, Business Editors teach DeskTalk's TREND 3.5 provides network managers with comprehensive web-based management reports. Service Level Management report provides an instant view of latency and availability across the enterprise by element. Flores et al. col. 6, lines 21-24, col. 7, lines 19-22, and col. 8, lines 56-67, and Figure 5, Flores et al. teach links are represented graphically as lines with arrowheads that connect two workflows. Conditional links are indicated with a diamond icon. The diamond shape is a polygon. Links define dependency between two workflows and the mechanism by which dependencies between workflows is established. As depicted in figure 5, conditional link 1 relates to workflows (3) in a vertical alignment. A workflow map, as it appears on a monitor in a size suitable for comfortable viewing, is larger than the screen. For this reason, horizontal and vertical scroll bars allow the user to scroll through the entire map.).

- **[Claim 24]** accepting, into a data processing system, information identifying a collaborative business, participants in the collaborative business, and activities of the participants (Flores et al.: col. 2, lines 9-31, and col. 4, lines 22-52, Flores et al. teach the workflow server is the heart of the workflow system. Workflow maps highlight the conditions of satisfaction of both internal and external customers.);

- identifying functionality of the activities (Flores et al.: col.2, lines 1-30, Flores et al. teaches business process mapping that displays the relationships among workflows, which workflows are primary and which workflows are secondary to the business process);

- identifying system requirements used to implement the collaborative business (Business Editors: Para 3, 7, and 10, Business Editors teach DeskTalk's TREND 3.5 provides network managers with comprehensive web-based management reports. Service Level Management report provides an instant view of latency and availability across the enterprise by element. Capacity planning report details most over-utilized and most under-utilized elements indicating opportunities for load balancing.);

- identifying quantitative and qualitative business benefits based on a collaboration between participants (Flores et al.: Col. 2, lines 1-30, Flores et al. teach workflow maps highlight cycle times for the process and the conditions of satisfaction of both internal and external customers. The examiner interprets cycle time as a quantitative benefit and conditions of satisfaction as qualitative.);

- identifying an industry and corresponding solution maps relating to the collaborative business (Flores et al.: Abstract, Flores et al. teach the method and system of creating workflow maps of business processes provides consultants, business process analysts, and application developers with a unified tool with which to conduct business process analysis, design, and documentation. The examiner interprets consultants to be associated with various industries such as service and manufacturing industries.); and

- creating, in a data processing system, a collaboration for sharing a portion of the information accepted (Flores et al.: col. 3, lines 1-23, and col. 4, lines 22-52, Flores et al. teach the workflow server is the heart of the workflow system. The system is used to shorten the cycle time of producing workflow-enabled applications that allow users and managers to participate in and manage business processes.).

- [Claim 25] the participants include consumers, enterprises, or electronic marketplaces (Flores et al.: col. 2, lines 9-31, Flores et al. teach workflow maps highlight the conditions of satisfaction of both internal and external customers.).

Claims 26-54 substantially recites the same limitations as that of claims 6-20 with the distinction of the recited method being a system and computer readable medium. Hence the same rejection for claims 6-20 as applied above applies to claims 26-54.

Conclusion

8.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action.   Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.**   See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action.   In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

9.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

-      Cheng (Cheng, An Object-Oriented Organizational Model to Support Dynamic Roll-

based Access Control in Electronic Commerce Applications, Proceedings of the 32nd

Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences, 1999 [GOOGLE]) discloses

Organization Modeling and Management (OMM) that is able to map its objects types

to other organizational data schemes to present an integrated multidimensional view

of organizations to E-commerce applications.

-   Popov et al. (Popov et al., Capabilities of the Process Modeling Tool, document number CONFLOW.97.07, Conflow, 20 December 1999 [GOOGLE]) discloses the modeling capabilities for the representation of processes (workflows).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael C. Heck whose telephone number is (703) 305-8215. The examiner can normally be reached Monday thru Friday between the hours of 8:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tariq R. Hafiz can be reached on (703) 305-9643.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.
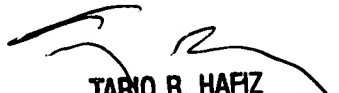
Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306   [Official communications; including After Final communications labeled "**Box AF**"]

(703) 746-9419   [Informal/Draft communication, labeled "**PROPOSED**" or "**DRAFT**"]

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5, 2451 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia, and the 7th floor receptionist.

mch
26 March 2004

TARIQ R. HAFIZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600